

TOWN CLERK

The Town Board, Town of Highlands, held a meeting on Monday, December 13, 2010 at Town Hall, 254 Main Street, Highland Falls, NY at 7:00pm.

PRESENT:	Edward Magryta	----	Supervisor
	Holly Gokey	----	Council Member
	William Edsall	----	Council Member
	Mervin R. Livsey, Jr.	----	Council Member

ABSENT:	Laurie R. Tautel	----	Council Member
---------	------------------	------	----------------

Supervisor Magryta opened the meeting at 7:00pm.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Ann Marie Feducia informed the seniors that the last day to change their drug plan is December 31. She also gave out a number for any senior that needs help choosing a plan.

James Titolo asked the Board for permission to post information about Sacred Heart School for the camera to show. Mr. Titolo went over the information he posted and also gave a brief history of Sacred Heart School.

SUPERVISOR

Supervisor Magryta said that, at the previous meeting, there was arguing and he regrets that it happened and will try to not allow that in the future. The Supervisor reminded everyone that he takes committee assignments very seriously.

MINUTES

Council Member Livsey made a motion seconded by Council Member Edsall to accept the minutes from the November 15 and 29 Town Board meetings.

MOTION CARRIED: **4-ayes (Magryta, Gokey, Edsall, Livsey)**
 0-nays
 1-absent (Tautel)

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE

Council Member Edsall made a motion seconded by Council member Gokey to accept the A/P register in the amounts of \$206.50 and \$260,451.37.

MOTION CARRIED: 4-eyes (Magryta, Gokey, Edsall, Livsey)
0-nays
1-absent (Tautel)

JUDICIAL ISSUE

Supervisor Magryta has a resignation letter from Town Justice, Eric Stewart, effective December 1, 2010.

Council Member Edsall made a motion seconded by Council Member Livsey to accept the resignation of Town Justice Eric Stewart.

MOTION CARRIED: 4-eyes (Magryta, Gokey, Edsall, Livsey)
0-nays
1-absent (Tautel)

Supervisor Magryta said it is the Town Board's responsibility to fill the vacant spot left by Mr. Stewart's resignation and he would like to allow the community to submit letters and resumes. The Supervisor informed everyone that you do not have to be an attorney to be a judge.

Justin Rider said that if the appointed person is an attorney, he/she may start immediately, but if they are not an attorney then they will need to attend training before starting.

Supervisor Magryta would like to make the close of business on Monday (12/20) as the last day to submit resumes and said that the Board might need to have a special meeting to make the appointment. The Supervisor would like this information put on Channel 23 and in the newspaper.

OUTSTANDING COMMITTEE ISSUES

Supervisor Magryta said the committee issues are moving along.

TOWN RE-VALUATION

Supervisor Magryta said that the issue of a re-valuation was discussed at the last meeting and he would like the Board to consider this for next year. The Supervisor said that the deadline to make this decision is December 29.

Council Member Livsey is not opposed to a re-valuation, but doesn't think the timing is good. He believes that there is a lot of homework to be done before the process can begin.

Council Member Edsall agrees that it is a bad time to spend the money, but it is the best time to do the re-valuation. Mr. Edsall is concerned that there have been no comments from the Village or School Boards.

Supervisor Magryta said that the Board will give a week to receive comments from the other boards and then make a decision.

TOWN HEALTH INSURANCE RATE INCREASE

Supervisor Magryta said that the cost of health insurance has gone up dramatically and he is proposing raising the members' contributions to help offset the cost. The Supervisor said that the contributions will be raised by 1.5% bringing the cost of a family plan to 11.5% and a single plan to 6.5%.

Council Member Livsey made a motion seconded by Council Member Edsall to raise the member's contributions for health insurance by 1.5% effective January 1, 2011. All affected employees will be notified before the increase takes place.

MOTION CARRIED: 4-ayes (Magryta, Gokey, Edsall, Livsey)

0-nays

1-absent (Tautel)

SEWER BOND RELEVY

Supervisor Magryta has a resolution to relevy the unpaid sewer charges for 2010. The total of the relevy is \$36,996.56.

TOWN BOARD

DECEMBER 13, 2010

Council Member Livsey made a motion seconded by Council Member Edsall to adopt the resolution to relevy the 2010 sewer charges in the amount of \$36,996.56.

MOTION CARRIED: 4-ayes (Magryta, Gokey, Edsall, Livsey)
0-nays
1-absent (Tautel)

*******RESOLUTION ATTACHED*******

ORANGE AND ROCKLAND RATE HIKE

Supervisor Magryta said that Orange and Rockland is proposing a double digit rate hike and he has been approached about joining with other municipalities to be an active party to this action. The Supervisor explained that the cap for the Town's contribution is \$3,000. The Supervisor stated that a majority of the Town's asked have agreed to participate and he would like the Board to consider participating also.

Mr. Rider advised the Board to be specific in their motion and also said that the Town could see a terrific savings with this.

Council Member Gokey made a motion seconded by Council Member Livsey to engage with Warwick who is spear heading this Orange and Rockland rate increase action and that the Town approve a \$3,000 fund that will be capped, at that amount, to join the other Towns, Villages and Cities in Orange County on the active party status of being an active party in the Orange and Rockland rate increase at the request of the State Board.

MOTION CARRIED: 4-ayes (Magryta, Gokey, Edsall, Livsey)
0-nays
1-absent (Tautel)

HUDSON VALLEY HEALTH CENTER

Supervisor Magryta has been asked by Mayor D'Onofrio to send a letter of support for a Health Center in the Village. The Supervisor has been supplied with a sample letter that can be adapted for the Town of Highlands.

The Town Board agreed that this would be good for the Town.

Supervisor Magryta will contact Ms. Besheen and let her know the letter is coming.

STANDARD WORKDAY RESOLUTION

Supervisor Magryta has an amended standard workday resolution that needs to be approved. The Supervisor explained that the state requires all elected officials to report their average days worked per month.

Council Member Gokey made a motion seconded by Council Member Livsey to adopt the amended Standard Workday Resolution.

MOTION CARRIED: 4-eyes (Magryta, Gokey, Edsall, Livsey)
0-nays
1-absent (Tautel)

*******RESOLUTION ATTACHED*******

BROOKS PARK SIGN

Council Member Livsey asked the Board to approve the amount of \$116.84 for the cost of the sign at Brooks Park.

Council Member Gokey made a motion seconded by Council Member Edsall to approve payment of \$116.84 for the Brooks Park sign.

MOTION CARRIED: 4-eyes (Magryta, Gokey, Edsall, Livsey)
0-nays
1-absent (Tautel)

PUBLIC COMMENT

Debra Kopald questioned Council Member Livsey about scheduling a meeting to discuss the Wi-Fi issue.

Council Member Livsey said that he needs to speak to the attorney about some things and then he will get back to her. Mr. Livsey will request that this issue be put on the agenda for the workshop on December 20.

TOWN BOARD

DECEMBER 13, 2010

Council Member Edsall said that there were some Building Department issues that he would like to discuss at the workshop.

Supervisor Magryta told Council Member Edsall to forward them to him and he would put them on the agenda for December 20.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Council Member Livsey made a motion seconded by Council Member Edsall to go into executive session to discuss: 1) proposed, pending or current litigation; 2) collective negotiations under the Taylor Law; and 3) the Medical, financial, credit or employment history of a particular person or corporation, or relating to appointment, promotion, demotion, discipline or removal. The Board went into executive session at 9:00pm

MOTION CARRIED: 4-ayes (Magryta, Gokey, Edsall, Livsey)
0-nays
1-absent (Tautel)

Council Member Edsall made a motion seconded by Council Member Gokey to close the executive session. Executive session closed at 10:19pm.

MOTION CARRIED: 4-ayes (Magryta, Gokey, Edsall, Livsey)
0-nays
1-absent (Tautel)

Council Member Edsall made a motion seconded by Council Member Gokey to adjourn the meeting. Meeting adjourned at 10:20pm.

MOTION CARRIED: 4-ayes (Magryta, Gokey, Edsall, Livsey)
0-nays
1-absent (Tautel)

Attest,

STANDARD WORK DAY AND REPORTING RESOLUTION

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town of Highlands hereby establishes the following as standard work days for elected officials and will report the following days worked to the New York State and Local Employees' Retirement System based on the record of activities maintained and submitted by these officials to the clerk of this body:

TITLE	NAME	SSN	REG #	WORK DAY	TERM	EMPL. TIME KEEPING	DAYS/ MTH
Supervisor	Edward Magryta	5581	43440502	8	01/01/10-12/31/11	N	17
Town Clerk	June Patterson	6815	36002772	8	01/01/10-12/31/11	N	17.5
Board Member	Holly Gokey	9000	43447598	8	01/01/10-12/31/13	N	10.5
Board Member	Laurie R. Tautel	6941	38657680	8	01/01/09-12/31/11	N	6
Board Member	Mervin R. Livsey, Jr.	4423	42668889	8	01/01/08-12/31/11	N	8
Receiver Of Taxes	Nicholas Podias	0793	43441914	8	01/01/10-12/31/13	N	18.6

On this **13th** day of **December, 2010**

Signature of Clerk

I, **June Patterson**, clerk of the governing board of the Town of Highlands, of the State of New York, do hereby certify that I have compared the foregoing with the original resolution passed by such board, at a legally convened meeting held on the **13th** day of **December, 2010** on file as part of the minutes of such meeting, and that same is a true copy thereof and the whole of such original.

I further certify that the full board consists of **5** members, and that **4** of such members were present at such meeting and that **4** of such members voted in favor of the above resolution.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and the seal of the TOWN OF HIGHLANDS.

Motion made by **Council Member Gokey** seconded by **Council Member Livsey**.

Roll call vote resulted:

Mervin R. Livsey, Jr., Council Member	voted Aye
Laurie R. Tautel, Council Member	voted Absent
Holly Gokey, Council Member	voted Aye
William Edsall, Council Member	voted Aye
Edward Magryta, Supervisor	voted Aye

**RESOLUTION
OF
DECEMBER 13, 2010**

RESOLUTION TO RELEVY 2010 SEWER CHARGES

WHEREAS, the Town of Highlands levied a Sewer Charge for 2010 payable semi-annually in January and July 2010.

WHEREAS, certain said charges remain unpaid although the time for their payment has passed.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town of Highlands Town Board requests the Orange County Legislature relevy and include within its Warrant to the Receiver of Taxes of the Town of Highlands for the County and Town Taxes, the 2010 unpaid sewer charges of the Fort Montgomery Sewer Improvement Area as set forth in the list annexed hereto and certified as true and correct.

The question of the adoption of the foregoing resolution was duly put to a vote which resulted as follows:

William Edsall, Council Member	voting: Aye
Holly Gokey, Council Member	voting: Aye
Laurie R. Tautel, Council Member	voting: Absent
Mervin R. Livsey, Jr., Council Member	voting: Aye
Edward Magryta, Supervisor	voting: Aye

The foregoing constitutes a true and complete copy of a resolution duly made, seconded and adopted at a workshop of the Town Board, Town of Highlands, on December 13, 2010.

June Patterson, Town Clerk